

## Delivering Local Results Protecting Airline Pensions

The recent bankruptcy of United Airlines and bankruptcy filings of Delta and Northwest Airlines have reduced or threatened the pensions of current and retired airline employees. Without action by the United States Congress, thousands of current and retired airline employees in Washington State—many of whom live in the Highline and Des Moines areas due the proximity to SeaTac Airport—face significant reductions in their pensions. Hundreds of local families who were counting on the economic security of a pension are now are facing uncertainty and potential hardship. That is why I traveled to Washington DC to meet personally with Congressional leaders, hosted US Senator Maria Cantwell in SeaTac to discuss the issue with local airline employees, and am now introducing a Memorial to Congress calling for federal airline pension reform.

Corporations have a moral responsibility to meet their pension obligations to retired employees.



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*Rep. Upthegrove, retired Delta Airlines pilot and Normandy Park Councilman Clarke Brant, and U.S. Sen. Maria Cantwell at pension reform meeting*

**Representative  
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## State Representative Dave Upthegrove 33rd Legislative District 2006 Session Preview

*Serving SeaTac, Des Moines,  
Normandy Park and large  
parts of Kent and Burien.*



### Innovative Solutions to Improve Education, Create Jobs & Boost Health and Security

Dear Friends & Neighbors,

The 2006 Legislative Session is under way, and I'm honored to serve as your representative. Born and raised right here in South King County, I try to take an independent balanced approach that puts our community concerns ahead of party politics.

We need innovative, change-oriented ideas to improve our **schools**, create **jobs**, and expand **health care** options. To this end I am sharing three specific proposals I am supporting this year that provide positive solutions to economic challenges we all face.

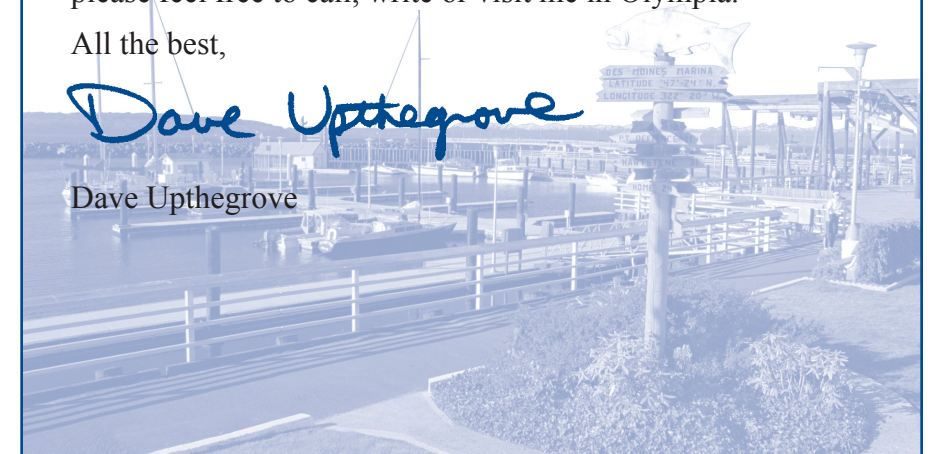
In addition to moving forward with new ideas in education, job creation and health care, we also need to take aggressive steps this year to keep children in our community safe from sex offenders.

I'd appreciate your feedback and input on these proposals, so please feel free to call, write or visit me in Olympia.

All the best,

*Dave Upthegrove*

Dave Upthegrove





# 1 Education

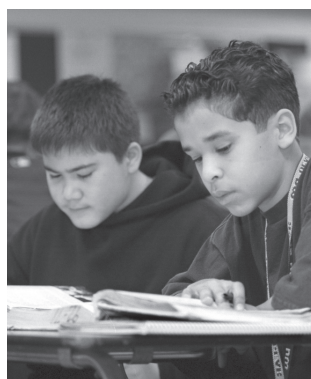
## Opening Educational Opportunities

Every young person deserves a quality education and support in meeting our new high school graduation requirements.

I propose that high school students who have completed all graduation requirements but have not passed the WASL (or WASL alternative) by the end of 12th grade be allowed to walk across the stage in cap and gown with their class, and then be guaranteed a space at the local community college, at no cost, to continue learning until they have the skills to pass the WASL and earn their diploma (or reach age 21).

If space is available, students could also register and pay for college-level courses at the same time, so they don't fall further behind their peers.

My legislation to make this positive change to our education system provides a positive pathway for young people who are struggling to demonstrate the basics in reading, writing and math.



## Delivering Local Results

### Keeping down local water rates



A local water district in Des Moines and Normandy Park (district #54) recently came to me with a financial challenge. The water district had been selected for a low-interest state loan to fix the Marine View Drive water line. Without a change in state policy, however, they could not receive the funds. Without this loan, the district would have to raise water rates on some folks in Des Moines and Normandy Park—including seniors at Wesley Homes. I am pleased to have passed legislation already to allow the district to receive the loan—so water rates can remain affordable for families and seniors already pinched with other costs.

# 2 Jobs & Energy

## Energy Independence and Good Jobs

I propose we spur development of power from wind, solar and other clean sources by requiring utility companies to generate 15% of their energy from renewable energy sources by 2020. I have co-sponsored this practical legislation to create new jobs in a clean-energy industry expected to grow to \$100 billion by 2014. It's an idea that has worked in other states and set them on the road to energy independence.

I believe Washington can lead the nation in the alternative-fuels industry, creating opportunities for our farmers, jobs for our workers, and a clean, domestic fuel supply for all of us. This is why I am also proposing new state investments to provide essential infrastructure for the biofuels industry, help for farmers who grow crops that can be turned into fuel, and access to those fuels for consumers here in South King County.



## State Representative

# Dave Upthegrove



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# 3 Health Care

## "Fair Share" for Large Corporations

Some of the nation's largest and most profitable corporations pay low wages and refuse to provide affordable health insurance to employees. They are undercutting responsible employers who do provide employee health benefits and adding enormous taxpayer costs. That's not fair. I know because it has impacted my own family:

*My grandpa owned a small hardware store his whole adult life—and provided his employees health care benefits & good wages. My uncle now owns the store. Last year, a Super Wal-Mart moved in down the block. Because of competition from Wal-Mart, my uncle is struggling financially, had to sell his home, and may have to close the store. The reason Wal-Mart can run him out of business is, in part, because Wal-Mart does not provide health care to their employees.*



To avoid a race to the bottom in employer health coverage, I'm proposing that large, highly profitable corporations pay their fair share of health costs, either by providing employee health benefits or by paying a portion of the taxpayer costs of providing health care to their employees. This step would save state taxpayers money, and it's the fair thing to do.

## Cracking Down on Sex Offenders

Our communities, children and families must be protected from sex offenders. Prevention of further attacks by chronic sex offenders, especially on young people, requires action by the Legislature. My **top** budget priority this year is to fund improvements to better track sex offenders throughout the state and keep them from committing more terrible crimes. I also will support tougher penalties for sex offenses and for sex offenders who fail to register.

